



Jim Watson
Mayor / Maire

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February 10, 2022

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

By e-mail

Re: Parliamentary Precinct

On behalf of Ottawa City Council, I am writing to formally petition the Government of Canada to assume responsibility for public safety and security within the Parliamentary Precinct and to commit to an immediate and significant increased level of support to the Ottawa Police, as the police force of jurisdiction, in the adjoining areas, subject to the resolution of any jurisdictional discussions between the Ottawa Police Service and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Ottawa City Council considered and approved the following Motion at the City Council meeting of February 7, 2022:

MOTION

Moved by Councillor C. McKenney
Seconded by Councillor M. Fleury

WHEREAS since on or about Friday, January 28, 2022, hundreds of vehicles and hundreds to thousands of individuals at any given time have illegally occupied the downtown core; and

WHEREAS this illegal occupation poses an ongoing serious and immediate threat to public safety, the safety of all Ottawa residents, in particular those residing in the abutting downtown neighbourhoods as well as the operation of business and services in the downtown core; and

WHEREAS the illegal occupation shows no signs of ending; and

WHEREAS the Ottawa Police Service does not have sufficient resources and capability to manage the occupation in the area of the Parliamentary Precinct

while also providing adequate police services to ensure the safety of those residents living in the surrounding dense residential areas;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Ottawa formally petition the Government of Canada to assume responsibility for public safety and security within the Parliamentary Precinct and to commit to an immediate and significant increased level of support (officers, resources, materials and equipment) to the Ottawa Police, as the police force of jurisdiction, in the adjoining areas, subject to the resolution of any jurisdictional discussions between the Ottawa Police Service and the RCMP.

Should you have any questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Jim Watson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jim Watson
Mayor
City of Ottawa

Cc. The Right Honourable Marco Mendicino, Minister of Public Safety